



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

In re application of:

Karen L. FINCHER *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/637,086

Filed: August 11, 2000

Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Association with Plants

Confirmation No.: 8111

Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: Marjorie A. Moran

Atty. Docket No.: 16517.285

**Request for Oral Hearing  
Before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Appellants hereby request an oral hearing before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in the appeal of the above-identified application.

Authorization to charge the official fee for this filing is given in the accompanying transmittal letter.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)  
Holly Logue Prutz (Reg. No. 47,755)  
Thomas E. Holsten (Reg. No. 46,098)  
ARNOLD & PORTER LLP

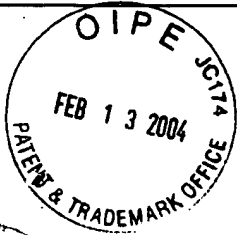
02/17/2004 SZEWDIE1 00000138 502387 09637086  
01 FC:1403 290.00 DA

Date: February 13, 2004

MONSANTO COMPANY  
800 N. Lindbergh Boulevard  
Mailzone E2NA  
St. Louis, Missouri 63167  
Tel: 314-694-3602  
Fax: 314-694-9009

ARNOLD & PORTER LLP

202.942.5000  
202.942.5999 Fax  
555 Twelfth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20004-1206



February 13, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Conf. No. 8111  
Art Unit: 1631  
Examiner: M.A. Moran

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/637,086 filed August 11, 2000  
Inventors: Karen L. FINCHER *et al.*  
Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants  
Atty. Dkt: 16517.285

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) are the following documents:

1. Request for Oral Hearing Before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences; and
2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

Please charge the statutory fee of \$290.00 for Appellants' Request for Oral Hearing to counsel's deposit account 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.285. A duplicate copy of this page is attached.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.285. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Sincerely,

David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)  
Holly Logue Prutz (Reg. No. 47,755)

Enclosures